Amended Claims for U.S.S.N. 09/787,229

1. (Currently Twice Amended) A process for the production of an orally administratable multiple-unit sustained-release pharmaceutical composition having controlled agitation-independent release, comprising the steps of (a) combining hydroxypropylcellulose polymer having a molecular weight of 250 000 to 1 200 000 and a molar degree of substitution of at least 3 in an amount from 40 to 95% by weight with a pharmaceutically active compound to obtain a mixture of polymer and compound; (b) converting said mixture into particles having a diameter of 0.2 to 3.0 mm; and (c) filling said particles into an orally administratable multi-unit sustained release dose form.

2. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said polymer is employed in an amount from 45 to 90% by weight.

3. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said polymer has an average molecular weight of 350 000 to 1 150 000.

4. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles have a maximum diameter of 0.5 to 2 mm.

5. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles are produced by melt extrusion and/or granulation.

6. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles are converted into said orally administratable pharmaceutical composition by conventional tableting methods.

7. (Currently Twice Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles are in the form of pellets, granules, minitablets or grains ~~and wherein said particles are converted into said orally administratable composition by filling said particles into a capsule~~.

8. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of lacquering said particles prior to said step of converting said particles to an orally administratable composition.

12. (Currently Twice Amended) An agitation-independent, orally administratable multi-unit, sustained release ~~orally administratable~~ dose form ~~pharmaceutical composition~~, comprising a mixture of hydroxypropylcellulose polymer and a pharmaceutically active compound, wherein said polymer has a molecular weight of between 250,000 and 1,200,000 and a molar degree of substitution of ≥ 3 and is 40-95% by weight of said mixture and further wherein said mixture is granulated to a particle size having a diameter of between 0.2 and 3.0 mm.

13. (New) The agitation-independent, orally administratable multi-unit, sustained release dose form of claim 12, wherein said dose form is selected from the group consisting of a capsule, a sachet and a modified tablet.

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1. (Currently Twice Amended) A process for the production of an orally administratable multiple-unit sustained-release pharmaceutical composition having controlled agitation-independent release, comprising the steps of (a) combining hydroxypropylcellulose polymer having a molecular weight of 250 000 to 1 200 000 and a molar degree of substitution of at least 3 in an amount from 40 to 95% by weight with a pharmaceutically active compound to obtain a mixture of polymer and compound; (b) converting said mixture into particles having a diameter of 0.2 to 3.0 mm; and (c) filling said particles into an orally administratable multi-unit sustained release dose form.

2. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said polymer is employed in an amount from 45 to 90% by weight.

3. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said polymer has an average molecular weight of 350 000 to 1 150 000.

4. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles have a maximum diameter of 0.5 to 2 mm.

5. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles are produced by melt extrusion and/or granulation.

6. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles are converted into said orally administratable pharmaceutical composition by conventional tableting methods.

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7. (Currently Twice Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein said particles are in the form of pellets, granules, minitablets or grains.

8. (Previously Amended) The process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of lacquering said particles prior to said step of converting said particles to an orally administratable composition.

12. (Currently Twice Amended) An agitation-independent, orally administratable multi-unit, sustained release dose form, comprising a mixture of hydroxypropylcellulose polymer and a pharmaceutically active compound, wherein said polymer has a molecular weight of between 250,000 and 1,200,000 and a molar degree of substitution of ≥ 3 and is 40-95% by weight of said mixture and further wherein said mixture is granulated to a particle size having a diameter of between 0.2 and 3.0 mm.

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13. (New) The agitation-independent, orally administratable multi-unit, sustained release dose form of claim 12, wherein said dose form is selected from the group consisting of a capsule, a sachet and a modified tablet.